

Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-20

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2951

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, MX

SUBJECT: ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS: CONTINUED PRESS TREATMENT

1. EXCELSIOR TODAY FRONT-PAGED THE JULY 24 COMMENTS, WITH WHICH DEPARTMENT UNDOUBTEDLY FAMILIAR, OF CONGRESSMAN HERMAN BADILLO OF NEW YORK. THE ACCURACY AND COMPLETENESS OF THE EXCELSIOR REPORT IS UNCERTAIN BUT APPARENTLY BADILLO'S SPEECH ATTACKED THE RODINO BILL AND ECHOED SOME MEXICAN CHARGES THAT CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS OF ILLEGALS ARE VIOLATED IN USG EFFORTS TO LOCATE AND EXPELL NOT ONLY MEXICANS BUT ALSO DOMINICANS AND OTHERS.

2. A COLUMNIST IN LEFTIST INDEPENDENT UNIVERSAL -- NOT PARTICULARLY FRIENDLY TO THE USG -- TREATS THE BRACERO ISSUE ON JULY 25 IN A GENERALLY REFLECTIVE AND SENSIBLE MANNER. HE POINTS OUT THAT THE TIDE OF ILLEGAL EMIGRATION FROM MEXICO TO THE US FLOWS DIRECTLY FROM LACK OF OPPORTUNITY IN MEXICO. HE RECOGNIZES THE US POINT OF VIEW THAT ILLEGALS ARRIVE "IN A STATE OF HUNGER, ACCEPT MISERABLE WAGES, SERVE AS STRIKE BREAKERS, COMPETE TO THE DETRIMENT OF US FARM WORKERS" AND ARE NOT SUPPORTED EITHER BY LABOR ORGANIZATIONS OR CHICANOS "WHO ARE ALSO PREJUDICED IN THIS COMPETITION OF MISERY". THE COLUMNIST ALSO RECONGNIZES AN EVIL NOT GENERALLY TOUCHED UPON BY MEXICAN COMMENTATORS, THAT THE ILLEGALS REPRESENT A DYNAMIC ELEMENT IN MEXICAN SOCIETY, I.E. THOSE WHO TAKE RISKS TO IMPROVE THEIR

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SITUATION RATHER THAN SIT IN PASSIVE MISERY IN MEXICAN VILLAGES.

THE WRITER ALSO SKETCHES THE REAL NIGHTMARE OF MEXICAN POLICYMAKERS,
A POSSIBLE MASSIVE REPATRIATION OF MEXICAN ILLEGALS. HE ASKS:
"WHAT WOULD WE DO WITH THIS EXCESS MANPOWER, WHERE WOULD THEY
LIVE, WHERE WOULD THEY WORK, WHAT WOULD THEY EAT? WE CANNOT
IMAGINE THE LATENT DANGER ENTAILED IN SUCH A MASSIVE DEPORTATION..."
JOVA

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